**Assignment 6 – Digital Project – Part 1 – Proposal**

**S : Students**

The nautical students that will be using this wiki have usually worked within the marine industry somewhere between zero and forty years. There previous education could very limited to having several university degrees. Some of the students have a great deal of computer knowledge and others have very little. Sadly there are no prerequisites allowed in this program. We strongly encourage a math assessment and recommend a math skills upgrade if the results indicate less than a grade 11 level.

**E : Ease of use and reliability**

The use of a Wiki within the Nautical Studies department is only at the experimental stage at this time. We have our own computer lab with computers that have many different training software packages covering most of the courses within the programs offered. It is just one more resource for the students to use. This has been very useful for students that do not have their own computer. With the Wiki, the reliability has been excellent so far.

**C : Cost**

The cost is very low at the present time. It is just instructor time converting old exercises in to something that could be posted to the Wiki. Sadly, our program has not allowed for any prep or development time. Instructor time is extremely limited

**T : Teaching and Learning**

The use of the Wiki works very well with visual learners with good reading skills. Unfortunately this is not the dominant learning type within this group of students, they are “doer” and need lots of hands on activities. If feel the Wiki will just be another tool in the box for this program, unless much time and effort are put in its development.

**Interactivity**

With the use of the Wiki, students will have access to many resources. They will be able to communicate with each other and the instructor about the homework exercises, videos, and information on the Wiki. At this time, there is no time allocated for this with the instructional staff.

**O : Organizational Issues**

At this time there a few challenges to be addressed before this Wiki can be used properly. There would be a lot of data entry to go on the Wiki. Students and instructors will have to be trained on how to effectively use the Wiki. Some students will have to consider purchasing a computer and internet service. All registered students have computer access on campus, that may be enough with this course.

**N : Novelty**

This is a relatively new technology. It has some appeal to the techno crowd, but that is not what our student base is. So this will only be one of many tools.

**S : Speed**

This is only an additional tool and will not replace the classroom instruction. This Wiki will however greatly reduce the paper consumption that occurs with handouts and student manuals. The information that is presently in the form of handout and student manuals could be transferred within a few weeks if the instructor time was allotted for this process.